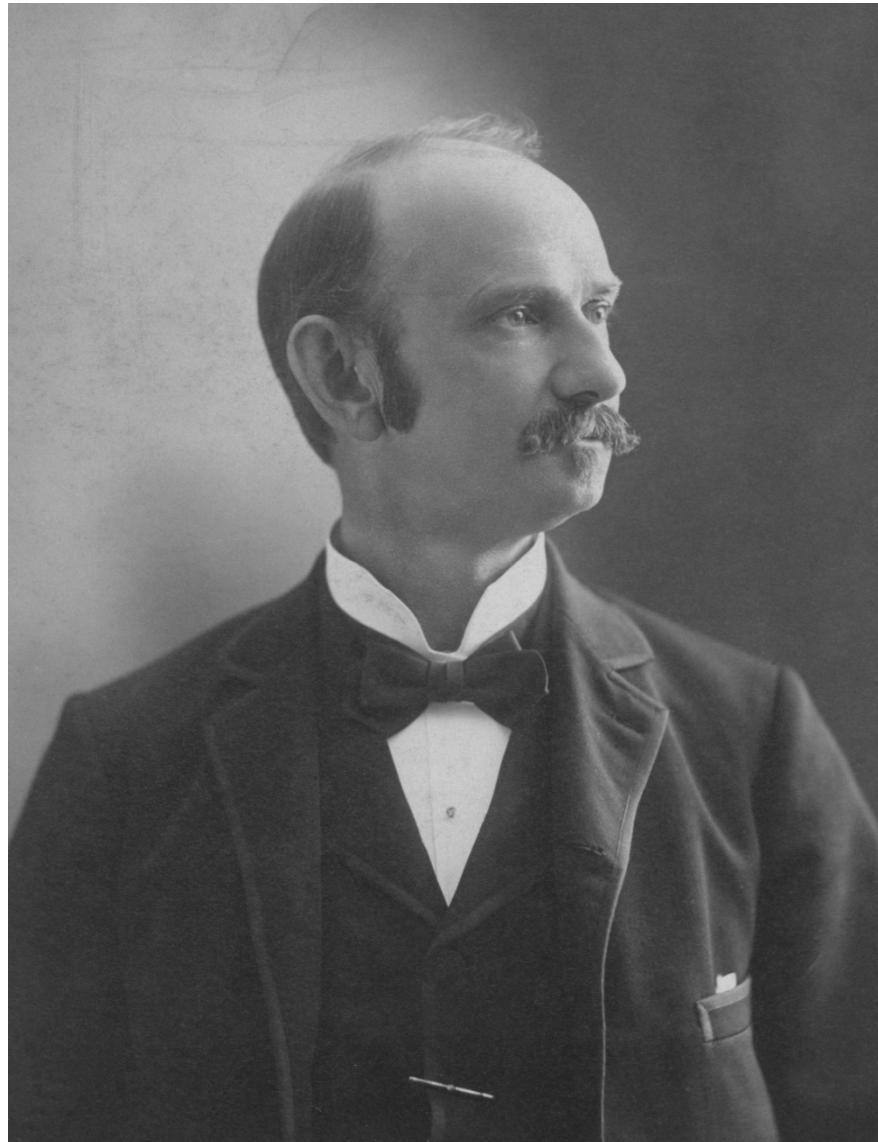


# The Nineteen Photographic Series of Ludolph Hensel

By S. Robert Powell

There are nineteen known photographic series that were produced by Ludolph Hensel of Port Jervis, NY, and Hawley, PA. Eighteen of those series consist of stereoscopic views.



*Ludolph Hensel* (1849-1927). During his long and highly productive career as a studio photographer, in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, Hensel took thousands of photographs of America and of Americans. The print of this photograph of Hensel from which the copy given here was produced is in the archives of the Wayne County Historical Society.

Historians from Hawley have determined the following facts about Ludolph Hensel: He was born on January 29, 1849 in New York City and moved to Port Jervis in 1866, where he became an assistant to another photographer. In 1875, he opened his own photography studio in Port Jervis at No. 4 Front Street. In 1878 he moved to Hawley, PA, where he established a highly successful photography studio on Main Street. He died in Hawley on November 29, 1927.

Twelve of the nineteen photographic series created by Hensel were created by Hensel in the Port Jervis period of his career. Seven were produced during the Hawley years.

The specific year of publication of only two of those series is known: Series 1 and 2 (see below), both of which were published in August 1879. That fact we have learned from a newspaper story, titled "Splendid Home Stereoscopic Views", that was published in the August 2, 1879 issue of the *Carbondale Advance*. Here is that article:

**"Splendid Home Stereoscopic Views.** / Mr. L. Hensel, a very skillful artist of Port Jervis, N. Y., has rendered our town, and our romantic coal region, a great service. For some months past he has been engaged in taking views upon the streets of our city, and of the whole town from surrounding elevations, and also along the line of our different railroads, including many wild, weird and romantic scenes. His subjects have been well chosen, and the work done with great judgment and skill. Together they make a collection of the finest stereoscopic views that have yet been published. No pictures can surpass them in romantic beauty, and we predict for them great popularity and a wide sale everywhere. Here, especially, they have an added and still greater value. They pertain to our own homes, and surroundings, and place in a most interesting form—so that they may be enjoyed at ease in our parlors—the picturesque beauty of scenes about us. They should be upon every centre table. / The names of the different views embraced in the list will be found in our advertising columns to-day, and a full supply can be found at the store of Henry B. Jadwin, on the Public Square, Price 20 cts. each; \$2.00 per dozen." These stereocards were also on sale at Peterson's and Greeley's in Honesdale.

Given below is the detailed announcement about those "Splendid Home Stereoscopic Views" that was also published in the August 2, 1879 issue of the *Carbondale Advance*:

**Stereoscopic Views  
of  
CARBONDALE, PA.  
AND  
A RIDE OVER THE  
DEL. & HU.D. GRAVITY ROAD  
INTO THE COAL REGIONS.**

Photographed and Published by  
**L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y.**

Th Marcy House, near Del. & Hud. Depot.  
View down Main st. from the Marcy House.  
View down Main st. from Wall street.  
Looking up Main st. from Wall street.  
View up Main st. from City Hall.  
East side of Main st. looking up from City Hall.  
West side of Main st. looking up from City Hall.  
East side of Main st. looking down from City Hall.  
West side of Main st. looking down from City Hall.  
Episcopal Church, seen from Main st.  
Episcopal Church, seen from the Bridge.  
The Roman Catholic Church, front view.  
View down Wall st. from Main street.  
Jermyn Block, Wall street.  
View down Church street.  
View of the Churches on Church street.  
Presbyterian Church, Church street.  
Carbondale, seen from above the Highworks.  
Head of No. 28, and Carbondale seen from above the Highworks.  
Van Bergen & Co.'s Iron Foundry, 3 views.  
Del. & Hud. Gravity Road Depot.

**RAILROAD VIEWS:**  
Honesdale seen from the Head of No. 13.  
The "Horse Shoe," seen from a ledge.  
Looking down from the Head of No. 14.  
Looking toward Depot; at Prompton, on Light Track.  
Looking toward Prompton, from Head of 15.  
Looking up No. 16 Plane, Passenger Train on Loaded Track.  
Looking down No. 16 Plane.  
Island on Keen's Lake, seen from Light Track.  
Keen's Lake, seen from Head of No. 17.  
The Angle at Head of No. 17 Plane.  
Depot and Tracks, seen from Foot-Bridge, at Waymart.  
Waymart, seen from Patterson's Hill.  
Waymart, seen from Old Dumping Ground.  
View down No. 18 Plane, with Passenger Train; Waymart in the distance.  
View down the Valley from Head of No. 11.  
Views of Shepherd's Crook.  
View of Passenger Train on Shepherd's Crook.  
View down Lackawanna Valley from Shepherd's Crook.  
Views in Rock Cut at Shepherd's Crook.  
Steep Grade at Shepherd's Crook.  
View down Lackawanna Valley from above Shepherd's Crook.  
View down Lackawanna Valley from Head of No. 23 Plane, at Olyphant.  
Olyphant, seen from near Head of No. 23.  
Grassy Island Breaker, near Peckville.  
View over the Gravity Road from Grassy Island Breaker.  
View of Inclined Bridges of the Del. & Hud., crossing the Lackawanna, at Peckville.  
View down the Lackawanna Valley from Plane No. 26.  
Views of Gravity Road from Head of No. 25.  
View of Archbald from Loaded Track.  
View of Archbald and Coal Breaker, seen from Railroad.  
View of Railroad Bridge at Foot of No. 26.  
View of Archbald and Coal Breaker, seen from Bridge at Foot of No. 26 Plane.  
View of Jermyn, seen from Head of No. 27.  
View of Carbondale, seen from Head of 28.

View of Van Bergen & Co.'s Foundry and Hendrick's Oil Works from Head of 28.  
View of Highworks and Shops from Head of No. 28 Plane.  
View of Carbondale, seen from No. 1 Plane.  
View of Racket Brook Gap, seen from Railroad.  
View of Racket Brook Breaker, looking up Plane No. 4.  
Views of Carbondale, seen from Plane No. 4.  
Views of Lackawanna Valley at Carbondale, at distance from No. 5 Plane.  
Bird's-eye View of Keen's Lake.  
Del. & Hud. Track crossing Keen's Lake.  
Views up the Gorge at Shepherd's Crook.  
Picnic Ground above Painter's Creek Falls, Shepherd's Crook.  
Manville Falls on Painter's Creek, seen from above.  
Manville Falls on Painter's Creek, seen from below.  
Van Bergen Falls on Painter's Creek.  
Devil's Slide on Painter's Creek.  
Wilbur Falls, seen from the Gravity Road.  
The Depot and Planes at Waymart, seen from the Highworks.  
The Highworks at Waymart.  
McGarry Avenue on the Gravity Road.

Price 20 cts. each ; \$2 per dozen.  
For sale by **HENRY B. JADWIN.**

↑  
Jadwin's Drug Store in Carbondale where these Hensel views were on sale. See the photo of Jadwin's Drugstore on the following page.

The "Railroad Views" referenced in the above ad and article were numbered by Hensel as Nos. 1100-1166, in Series No. 1 below. The views of Carbondale referenced in the above ad and article are the Carbondale views presented in Series No. 2, where they are numbered Nos. 1167-1190.

Here is a stereoview of Jadwin's Drug Store in Carbondale where these Hensel views were on sale. This stereocard, produced by a photographer whose identity we have not yet learned, is in the collection of the Carbondale Historical Society and Museum, Inc.



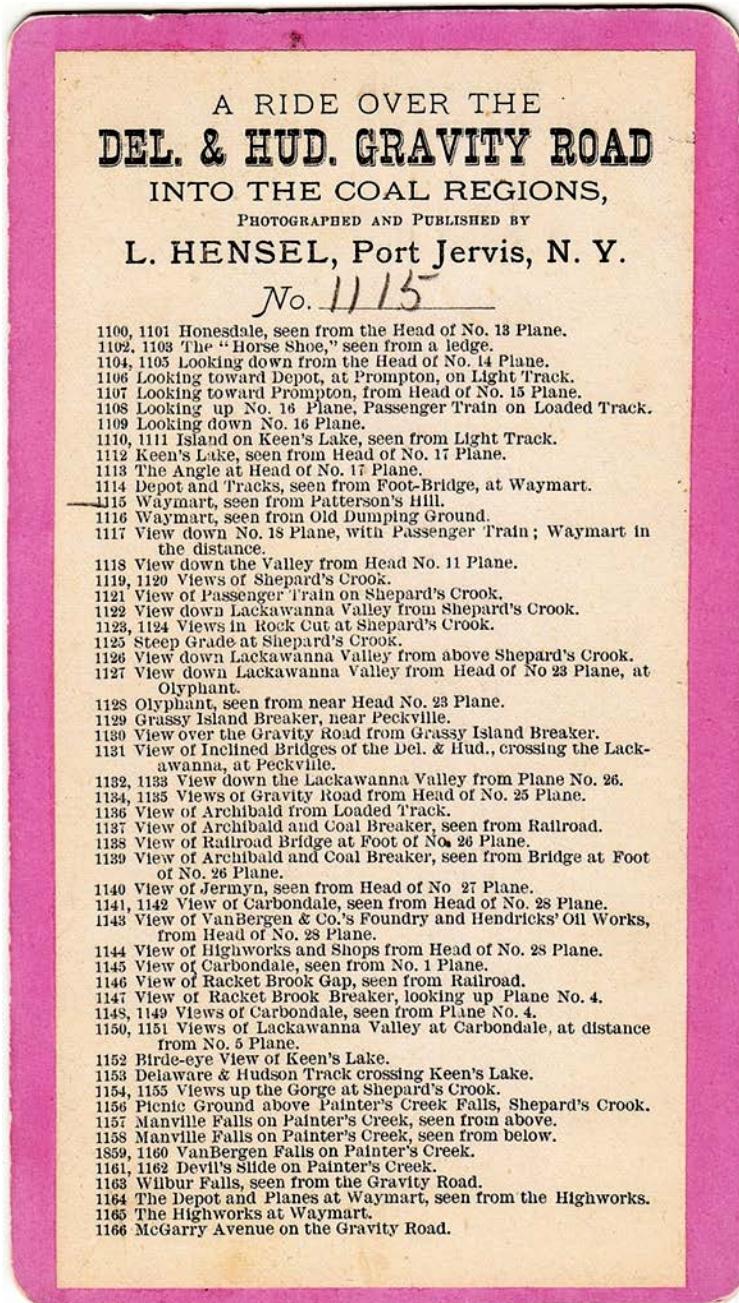
Stereocards by L. Hensel in nineteen separate series are in the collection of the Carbondale Historical Society. Series Nos. 1 and 2 were produced in 1879 (see above). The years in which Series 3-19 were produced have not yet been learned.

Shown below are the index master sheets (the back of one card in each of the nineteen series) for all nineteen series.

1. "A RIDE OVER THE DEL. & HUD. GRAVITY ROAD INTO THE COAL REGIONS, Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." (Referenced in the above ad from the August 2, 1879 issue of the *Carbondale Advance*). All of the images in this series, Nos. 1100-1166, are stereoscopic views of the D&H Gravity Railroad. Note that there are also D&H images in the second, third, fourth, sixth, and nineteenth series referenced below.

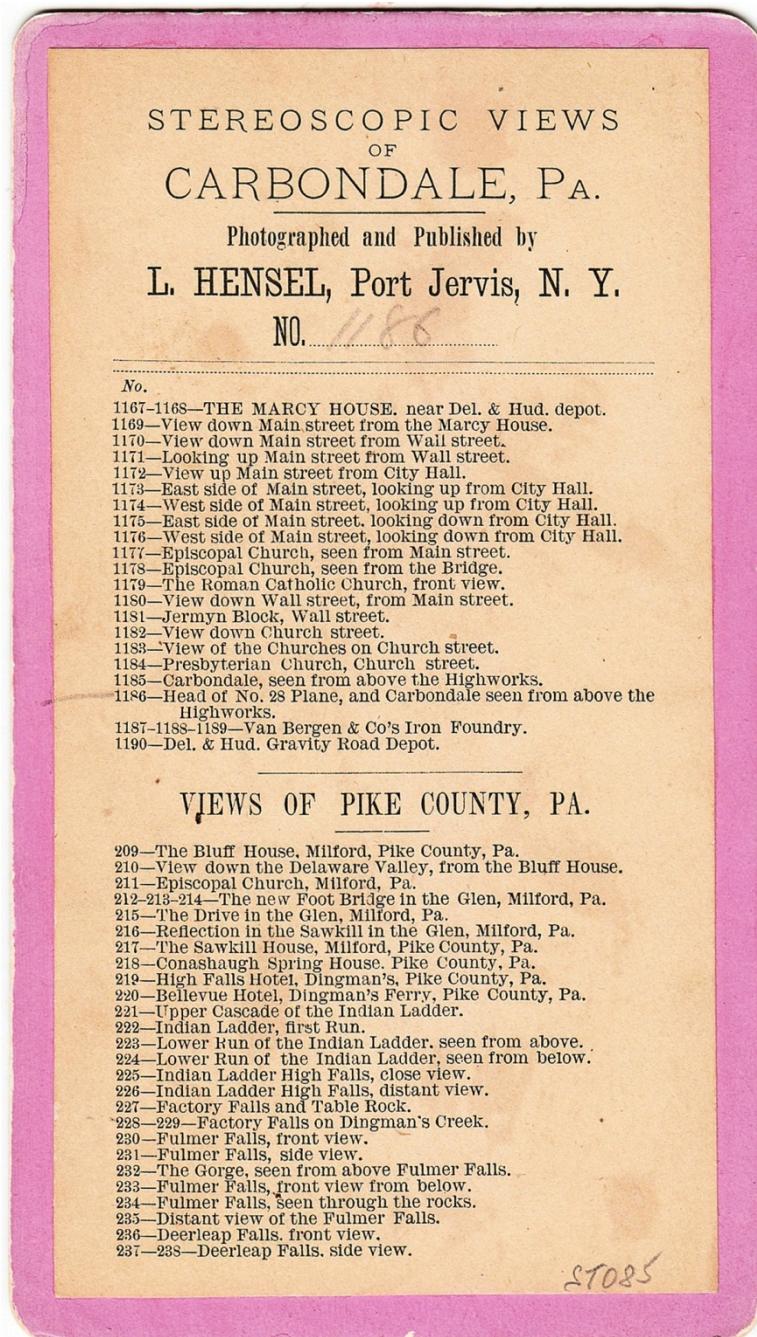
"Mr. Hensel, the artist, who took so many handsome views of Honesdale last fall, will be in town again in about two weeks for the purpose of photographing private residences and taking scenes along the Gravity." (*Honesdale Citizen*, May 22, 1879)

"L. Hensel, the artist of Port Jervis, who has been so highly successful in securing such magnificent stereoscopic views of Honesdale and vicinity, has recently engaged in similar work along the line of the Gravity Railroad from Honesdale to Olyphant. Views have been obtained of various planes, sections of the road, lakes, Shepherd's Crook, falls, coal breakers, etc. In fact, they furnish a comprehensive history of the Gravity, its workings and surroundings. These views are on sale at Petersen's and Greeley's." (*Honesdale Citizen*, July 10, 1879)

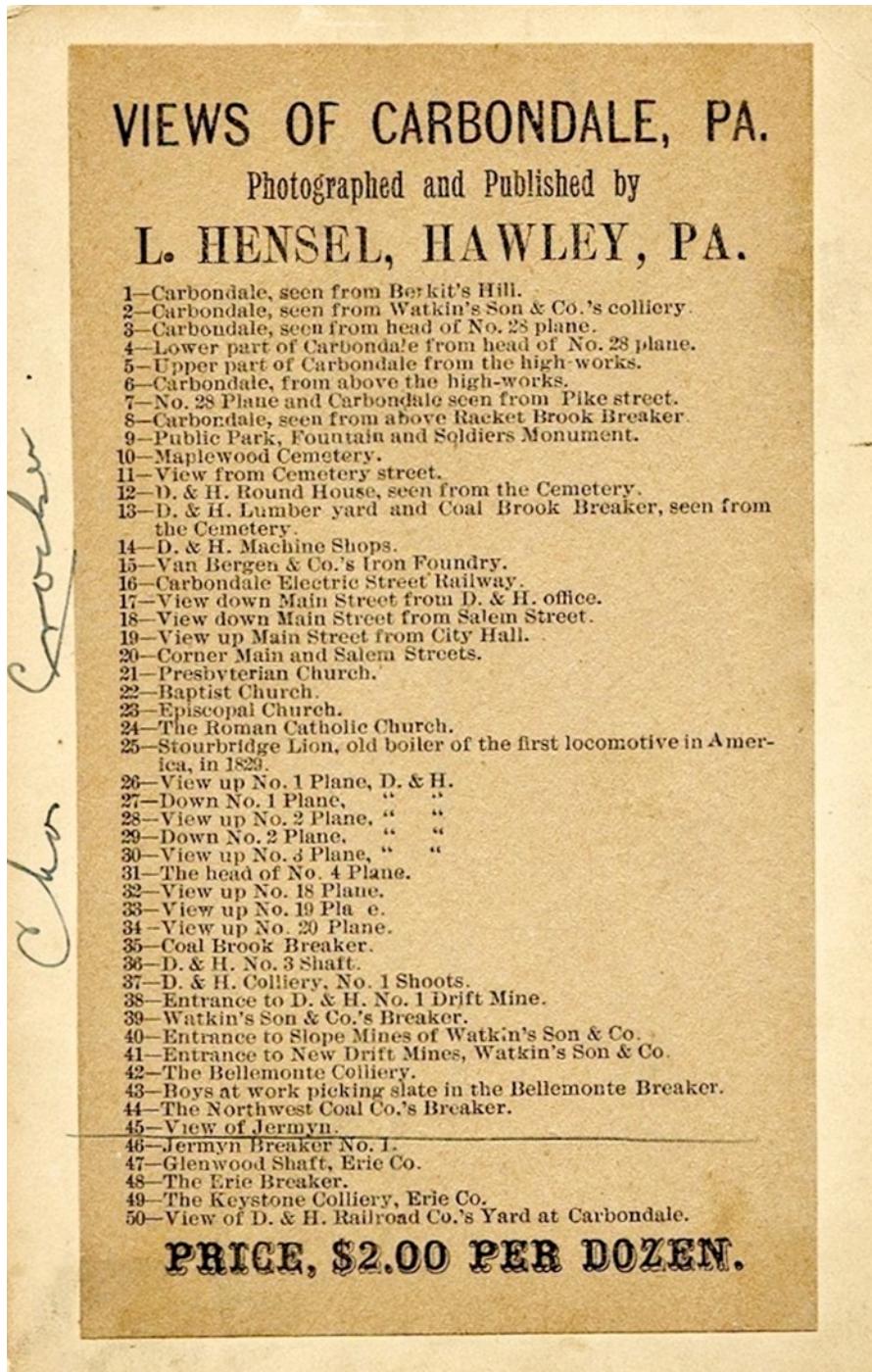


"The artist Hensel, having completed his work of taking views along the Honesdale Gravity road is now engaged in taking some of the romantic scenes along the Pennsylvania Company's road between Dunmore and Hawley." (*Wayne Independent*, August 7, 1879)

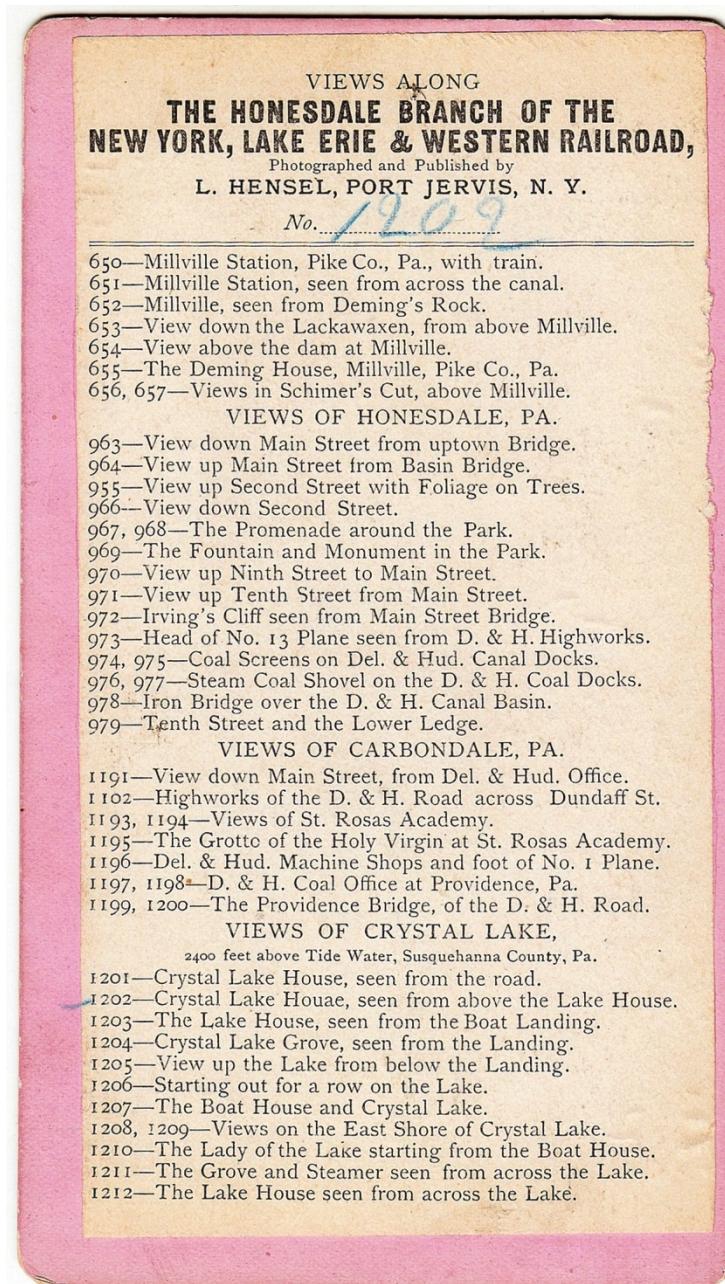
2. "Stereoscopic Views of CARBONDALE, PA. Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 1167-1190 in this series are of Carbondale. Additional views of Carbondale are given in Series Nos. 3 and 4 below. Also in this series are views of Pike County, PA: Views Nos. 209-238. Additional views of Pike County are given in the following series: 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 18.



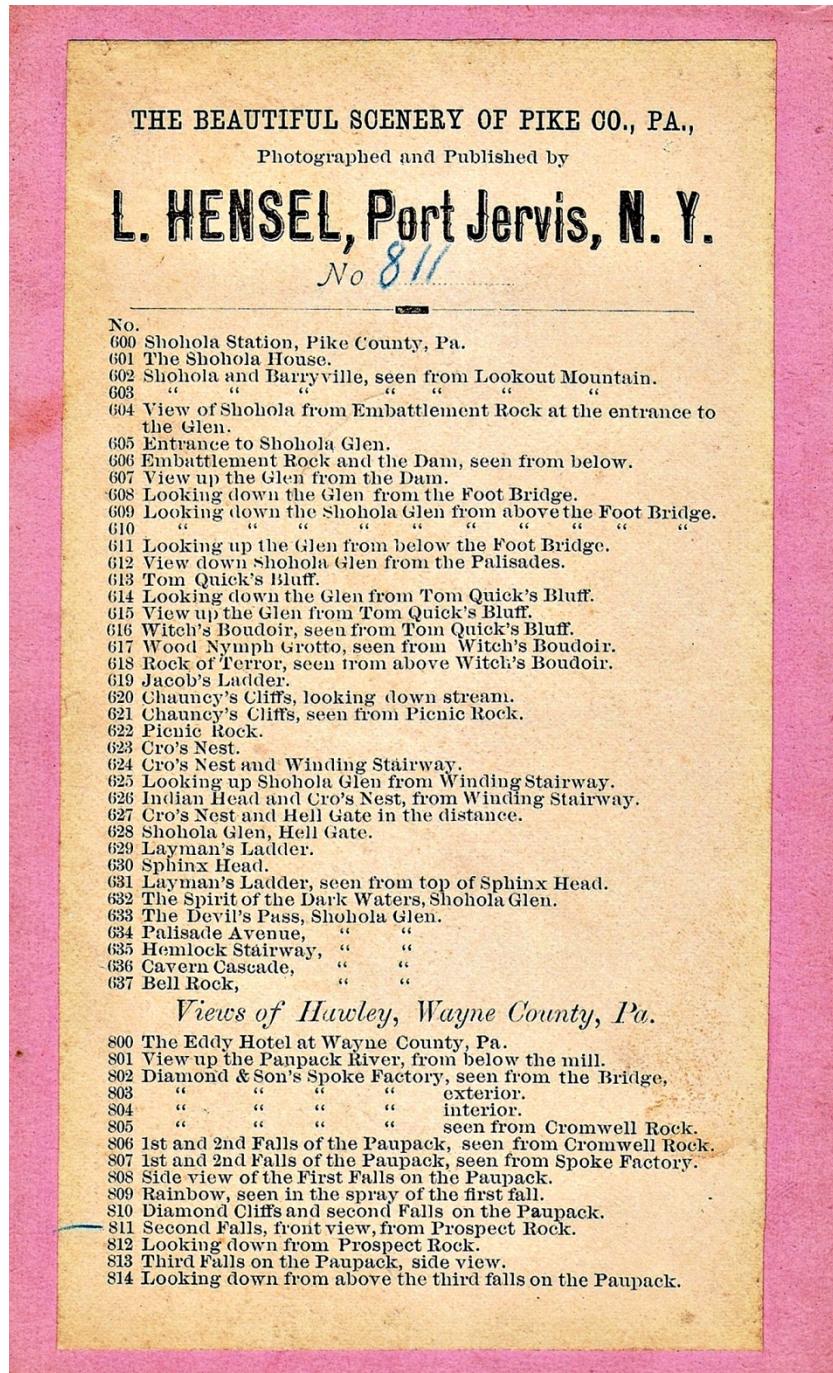
3. "VIEWS OF CARBONDALE, PA. Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, HAWLEY, PA." These photographs of Carbondale and the surrounding area, which are numbered 1-50, and which were offered for sale at \$2 per dozen, are not stereoscopic views.



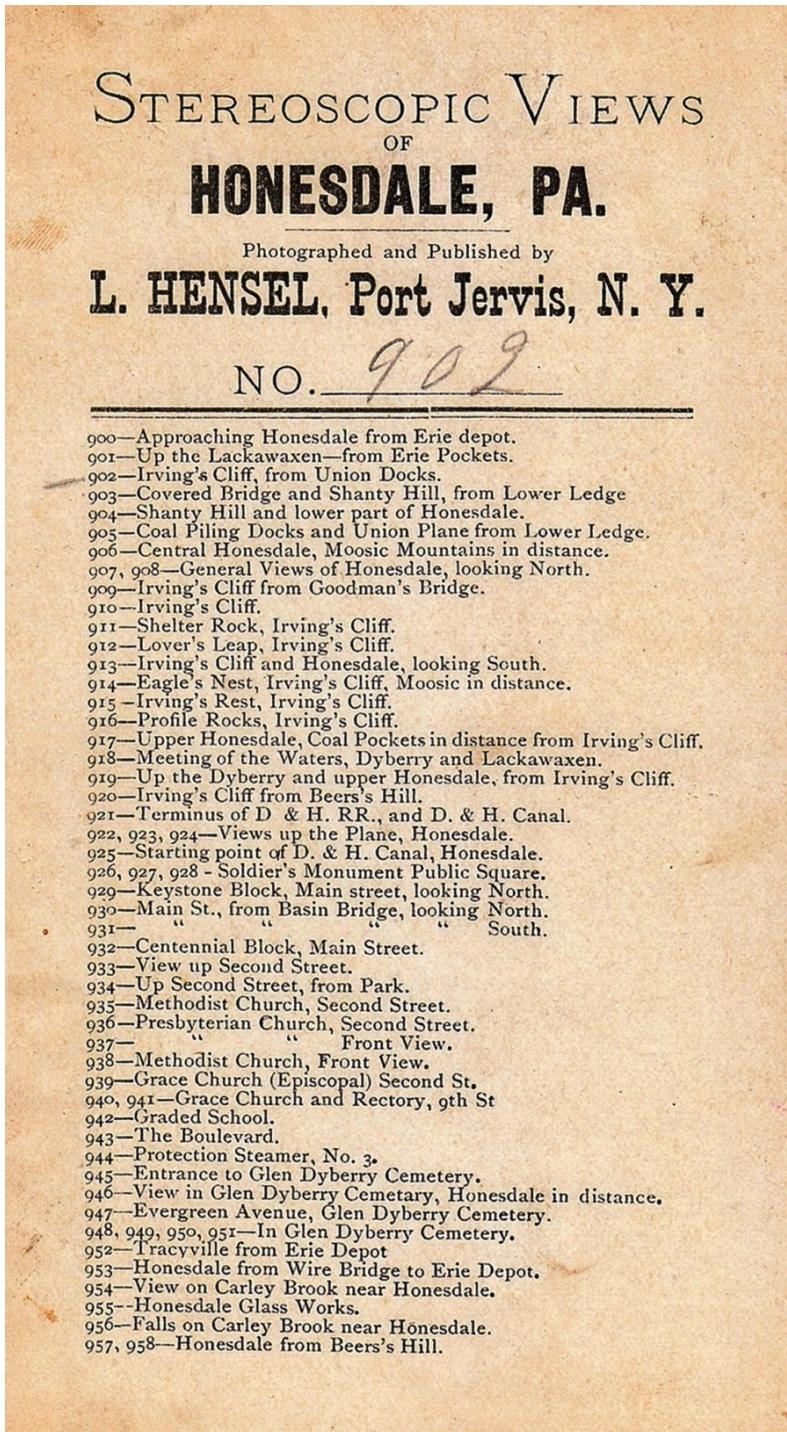
4. "Views along THE HONESDALE BRANCH OF THE NEW YORK, LAKE ERIE & WESTERN RAILROAD, Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, PORT JERVIS, N. Y." Views No. 650-657 in this series are of the Honesdale Branch of the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad. Also in this series are views of Honesdale (Nos. 963-979); views of Carbondale (Nos. 1191-1200); and views of Crystal Lake (No. 1201-1212). These are all stereoscopic views.



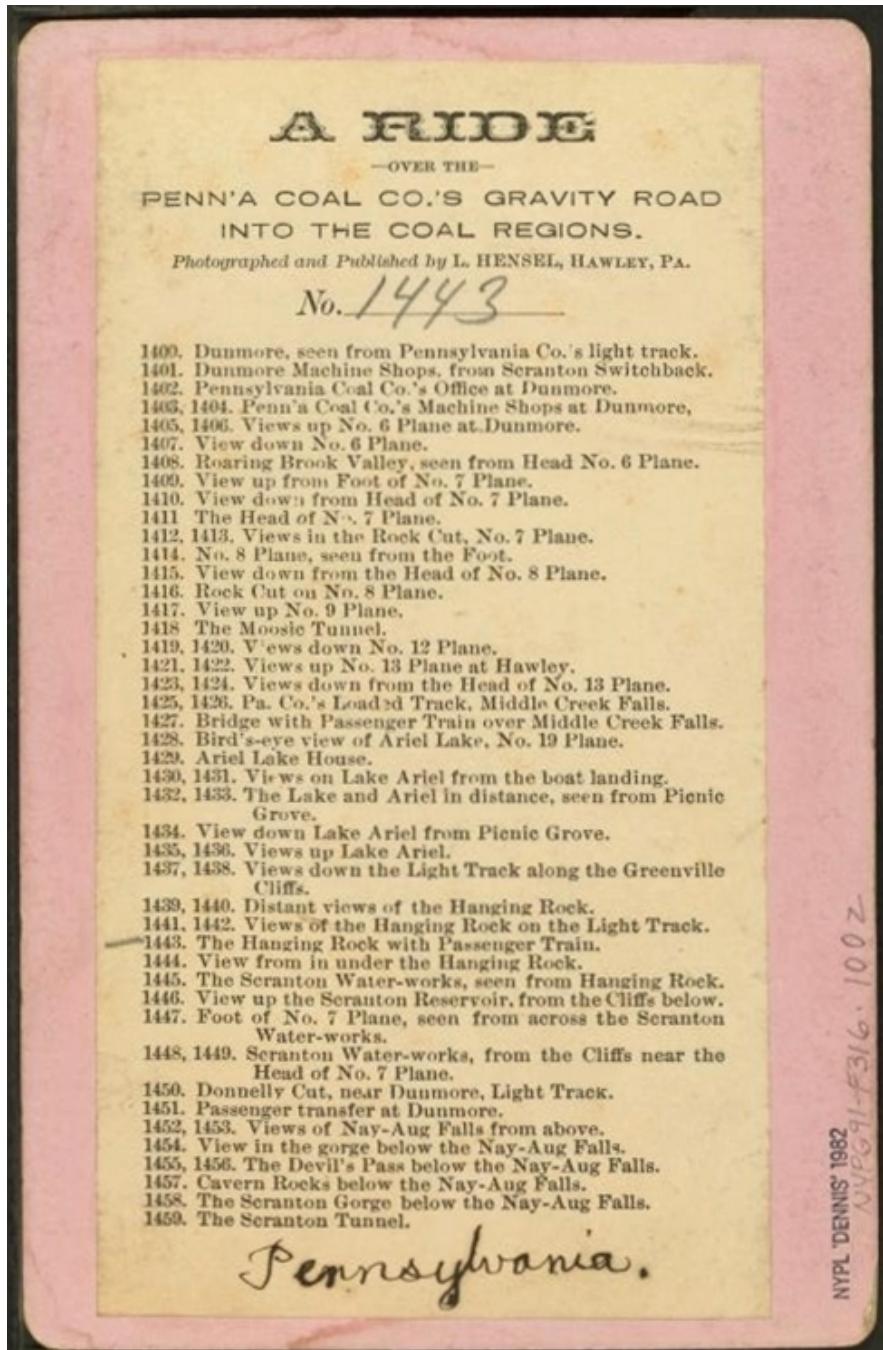
5. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF PIKE CO., PA., Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 600-637 in this series are of Pike County; views Nos. 800-814 in this series are of Hawley, Wayne County. These are all stereoscopic views.



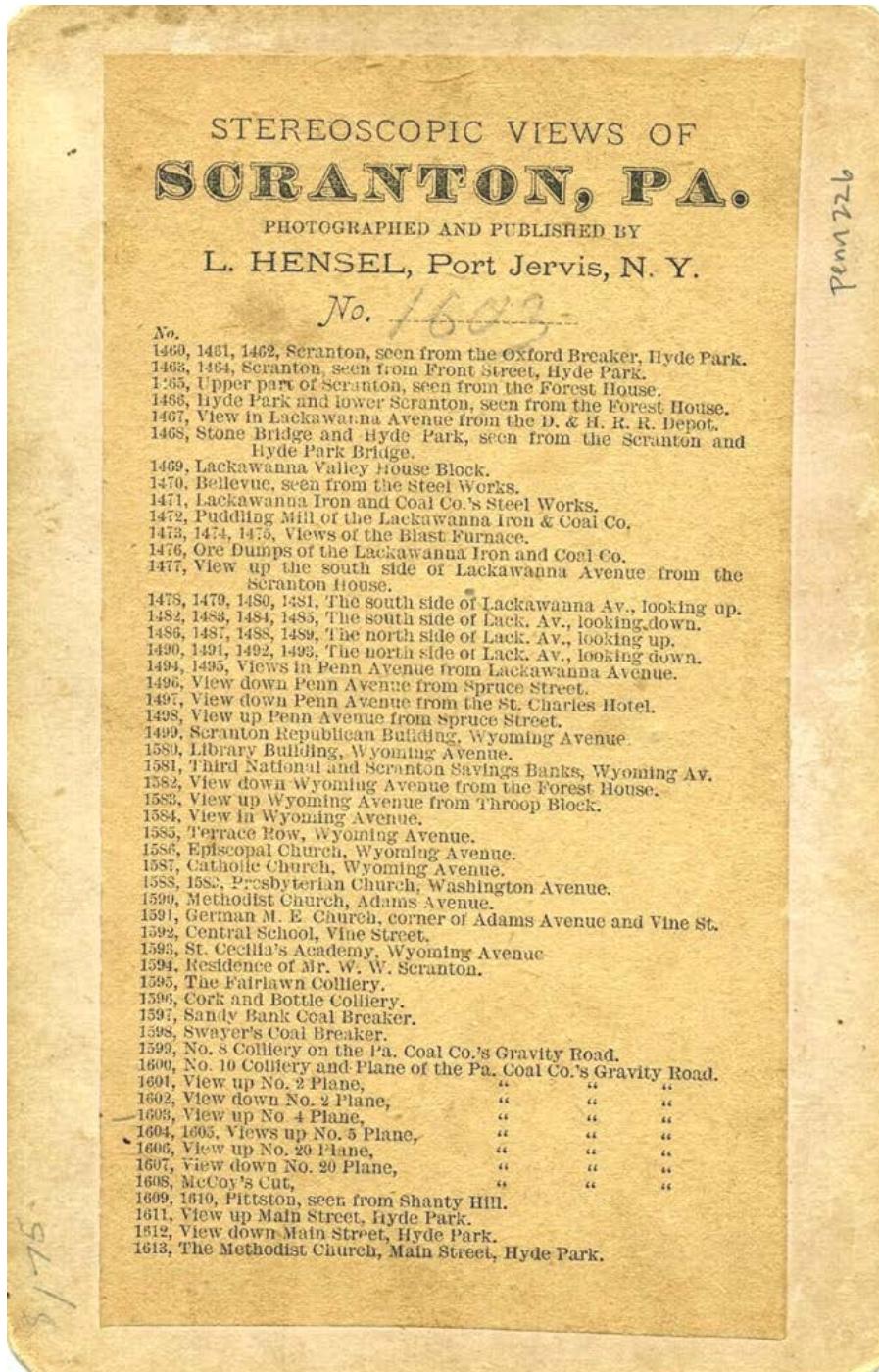
6. "Stereoscopic Views of **HONESDALE, PA.** Photographed and Published by **L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y.**" The views in this series are numbered 900-958.



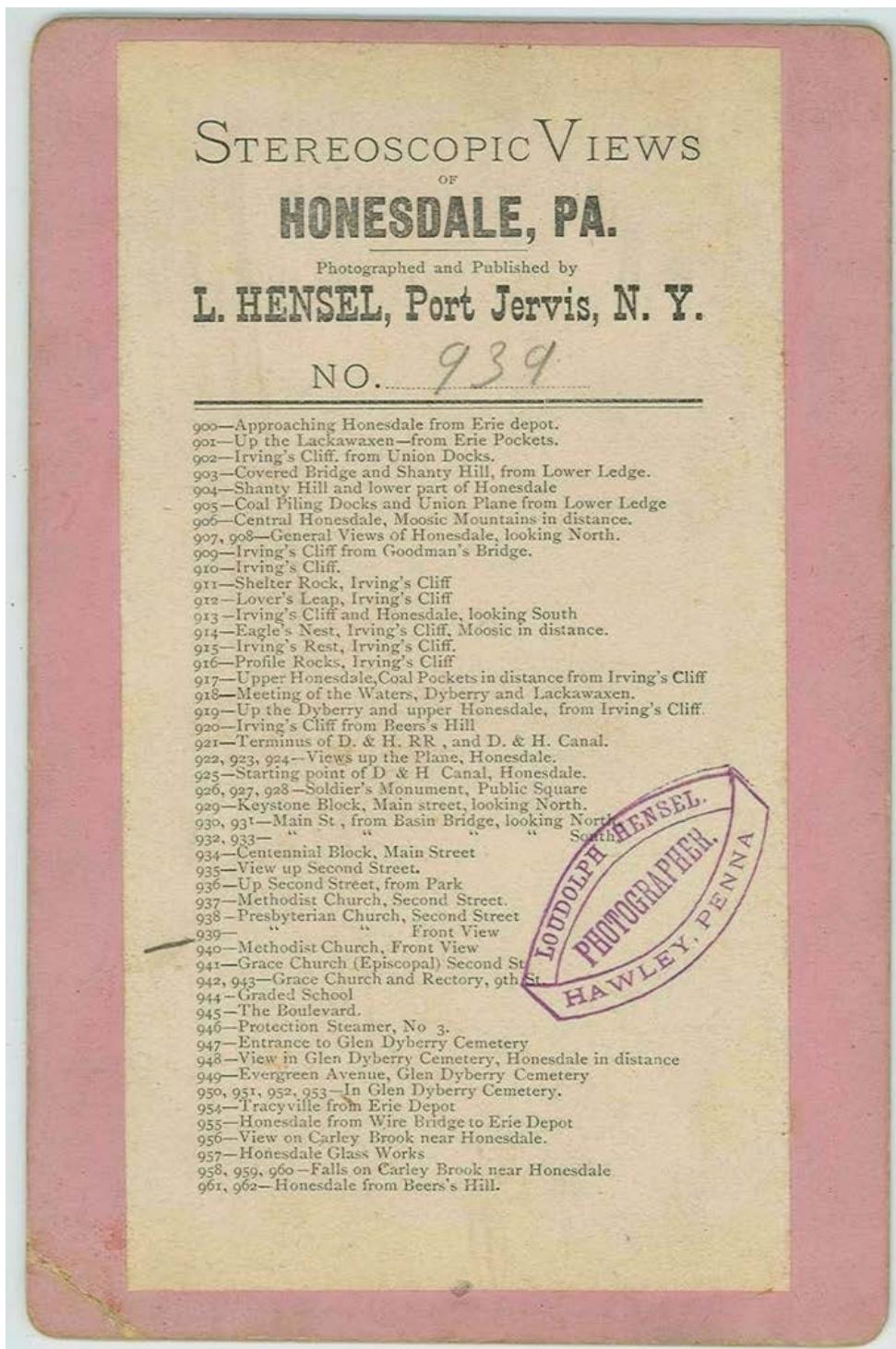
7. "A RIDE over the PENN'A COAL CO.'S GRAVITY ROAD INTO THE COAL REGIONS. Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Hawley, PA." These are all stereoscopic views, and they are numbered 1400-1459. See also Series No. 8, Views Nos. 1599-1608, and Series No. 19, for additional photographs of Pennsylvania Coal Company's Gravity Railroad.



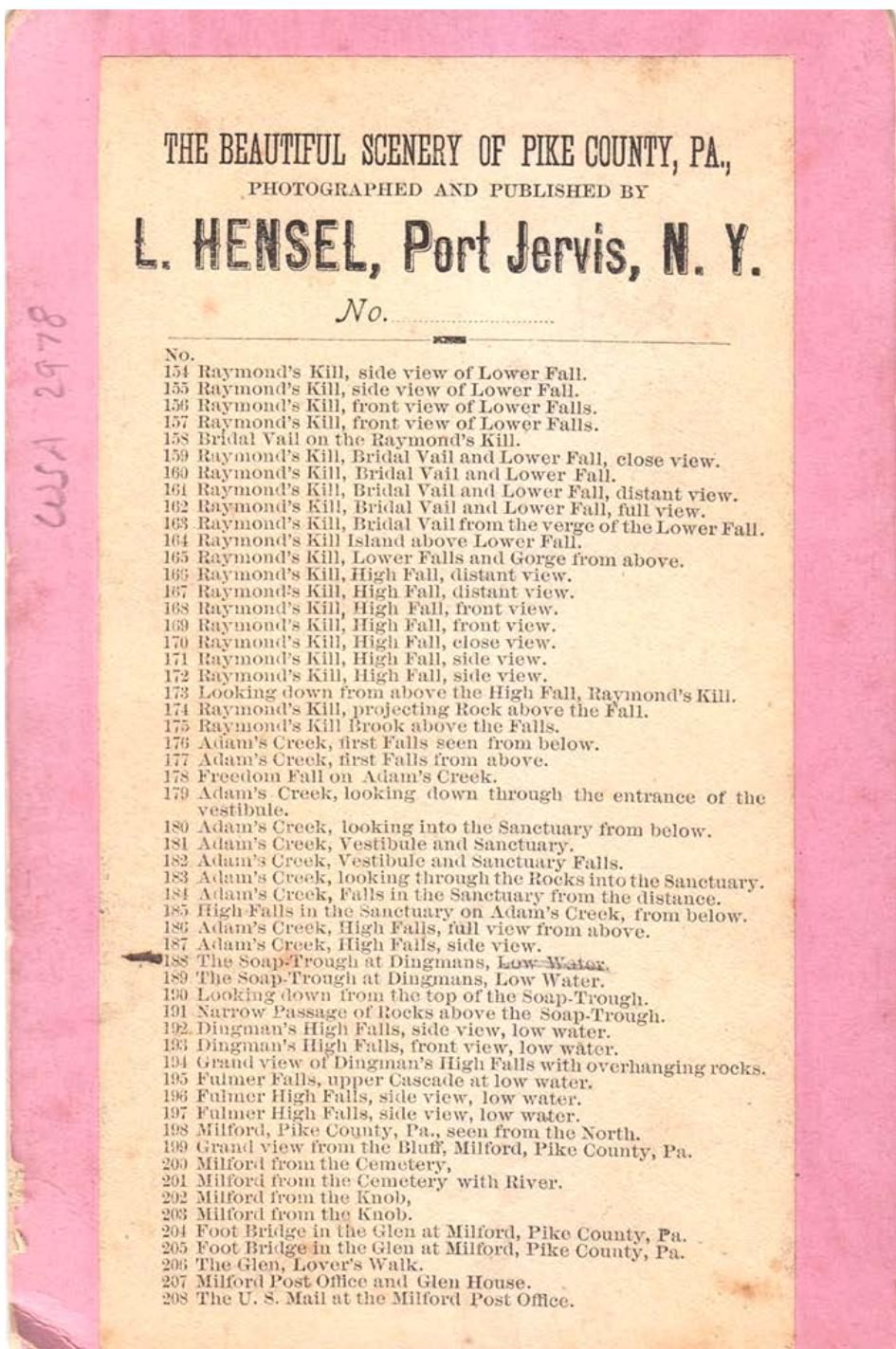
8. "STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS OF SCRANTON, PA. PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views numbered 1460-1613. Views Nos. 1599-1608 are of the Pennsylvania Coal Company's Gravity Railroad.



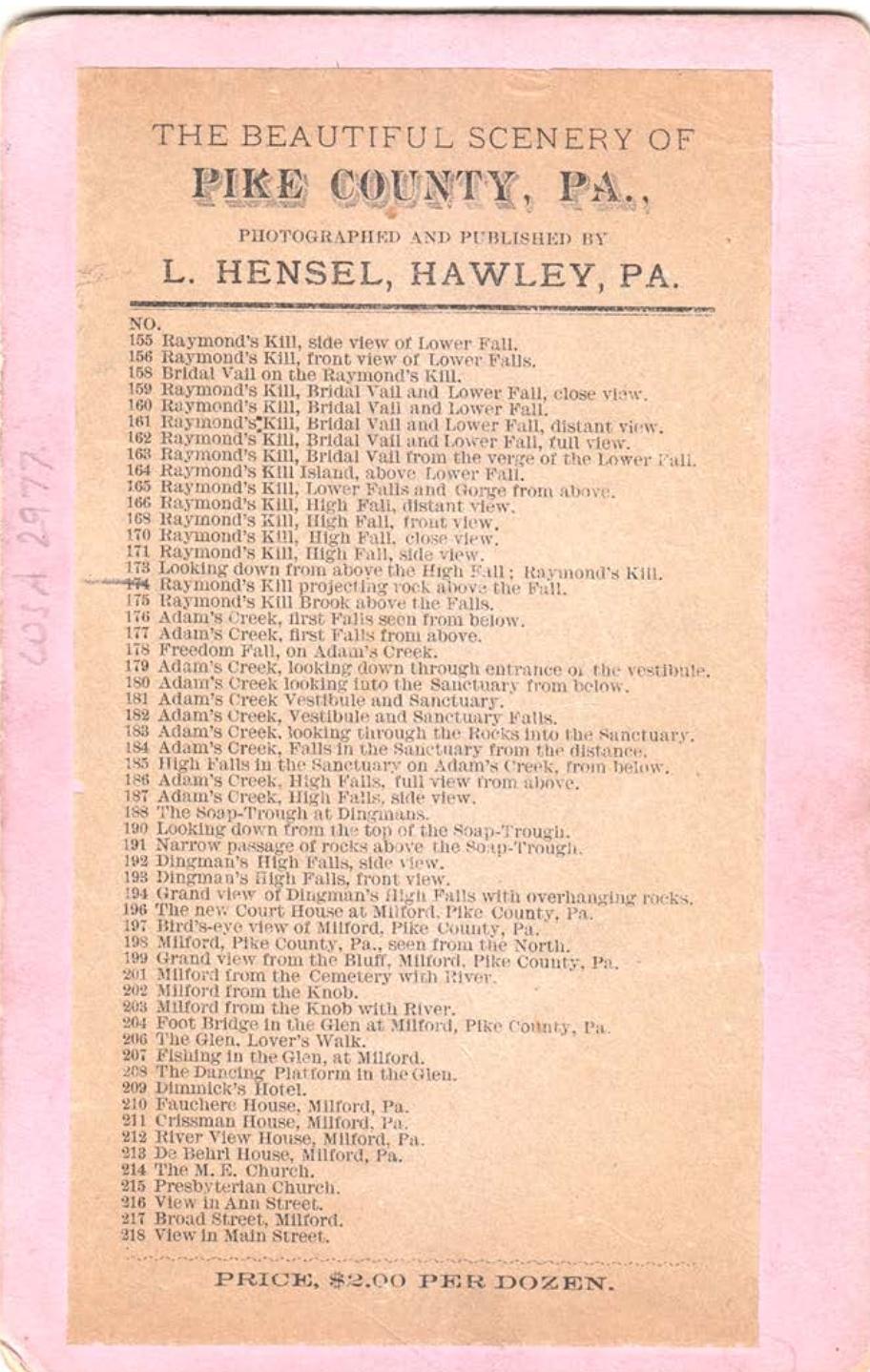
9. "STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS OF HONESDALE, PA. Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views No. 900-962.



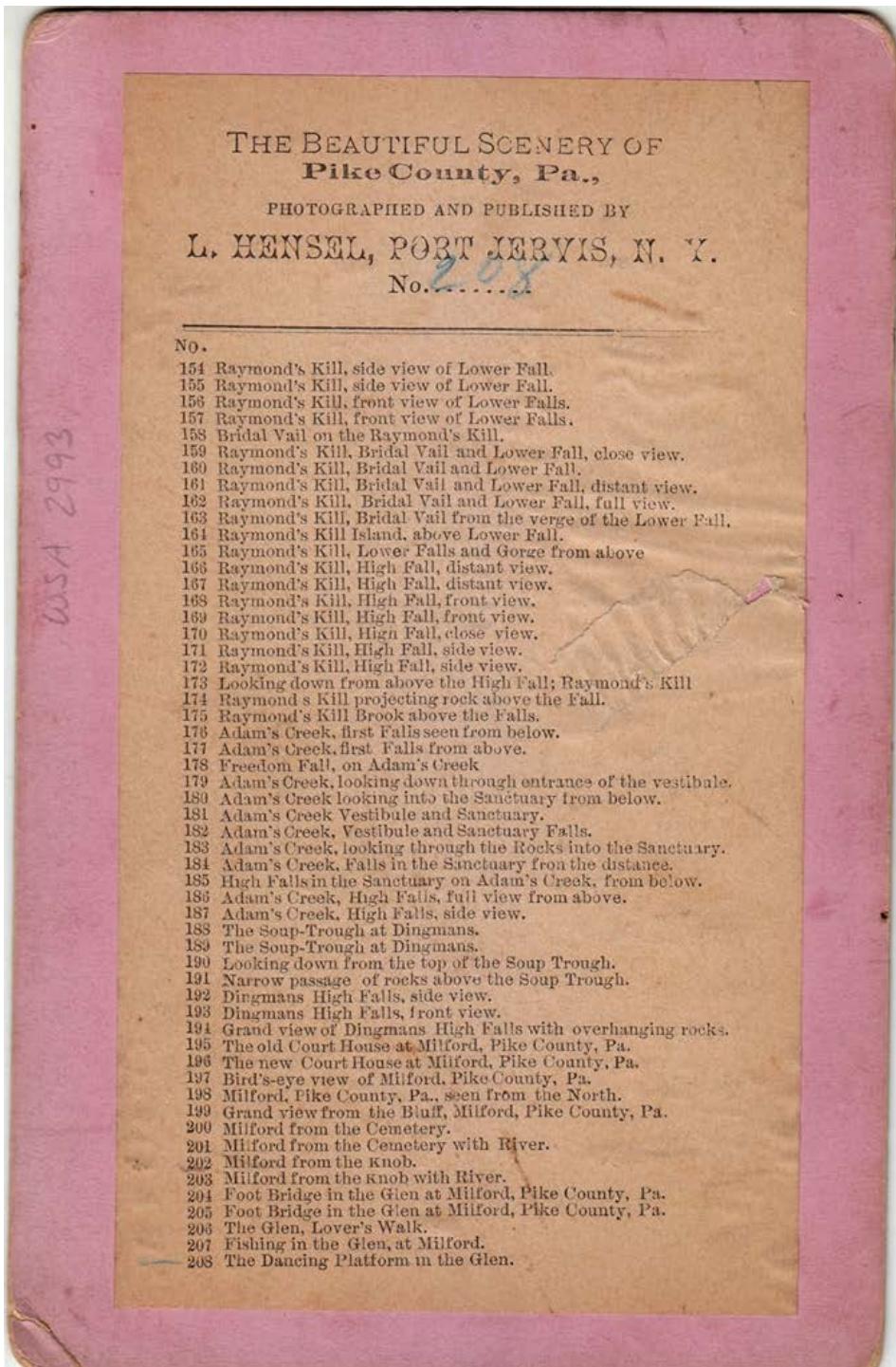
10. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF PIKE COUNTY, PA., PHOTOGRAPHED AND  
PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 154-208.



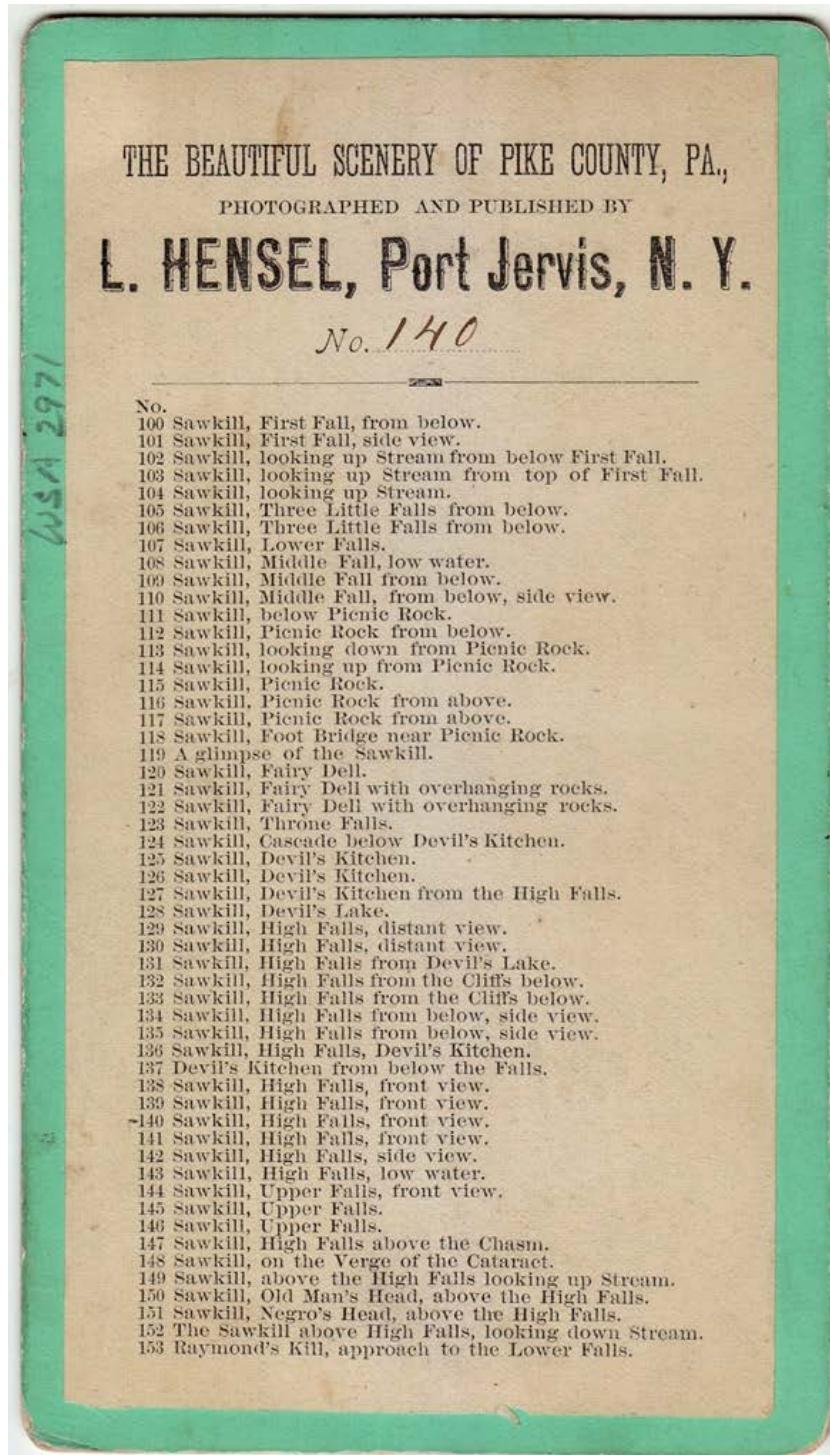
11. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF PIKE COUNTY, PA., PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, HAWLEY, PA" Views 155-218.



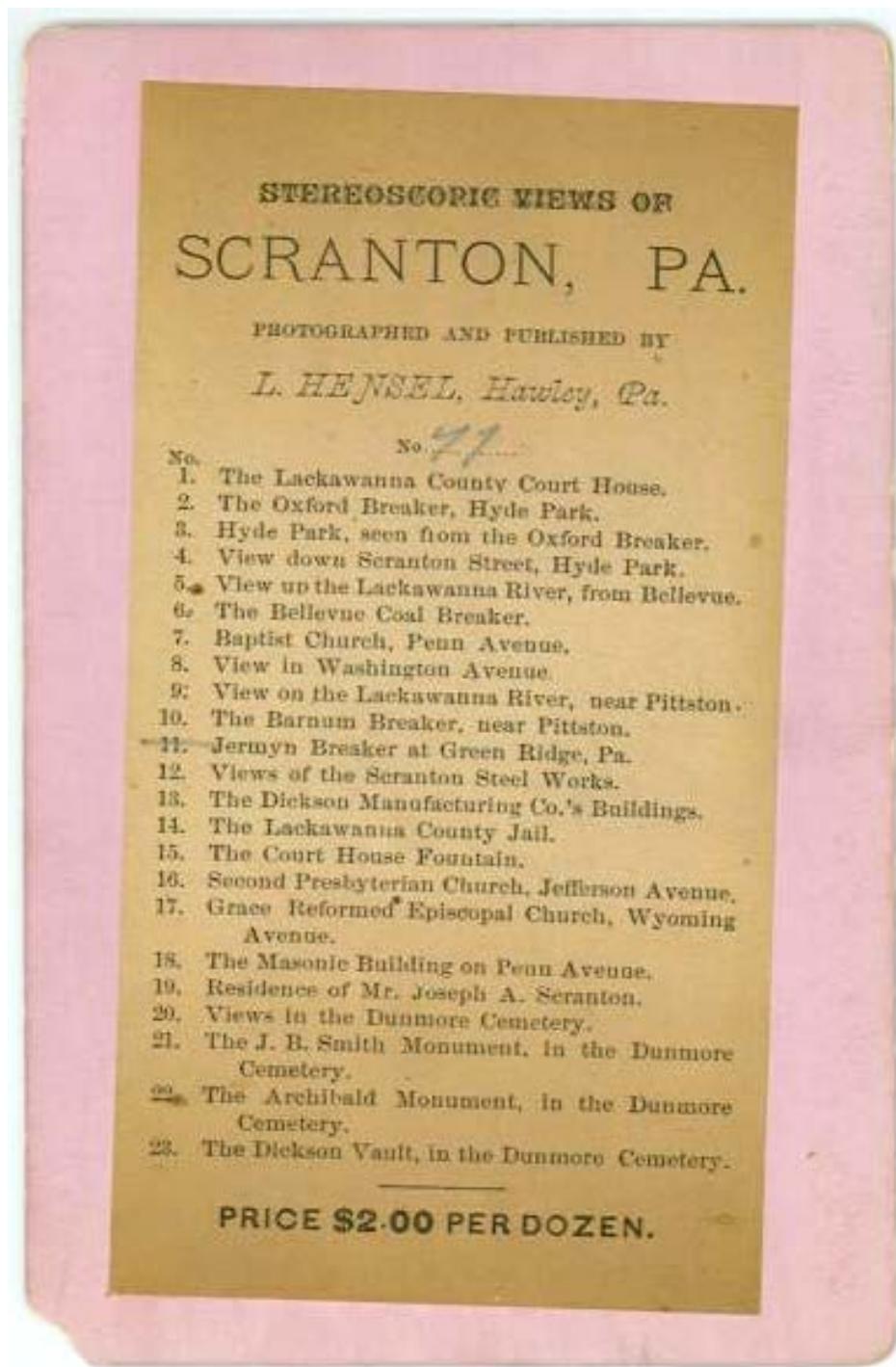
12. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF Pike County, Pa., PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L.HENSEL, PORT JERVIS, N. Y." Views 154-208.



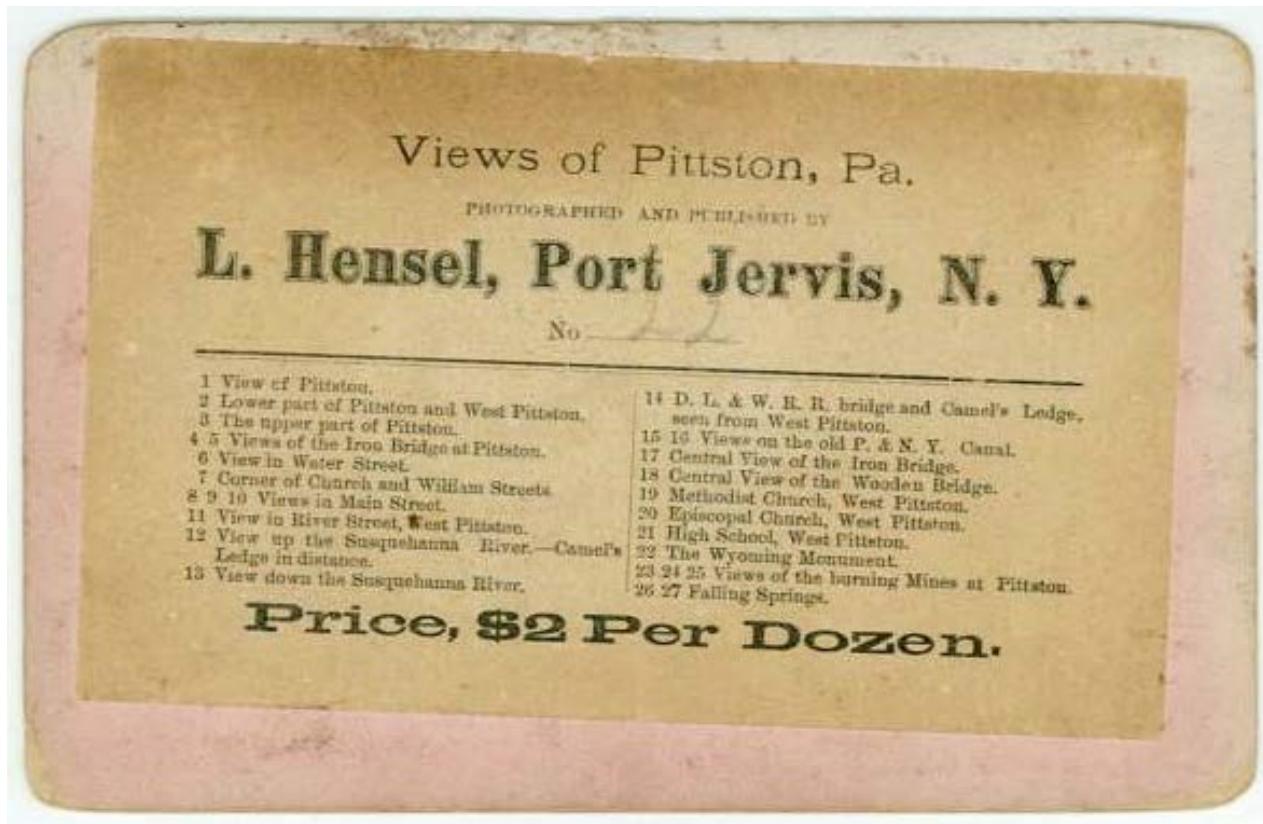
13. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF PIKE COUNTY, PA., PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 100- 153.



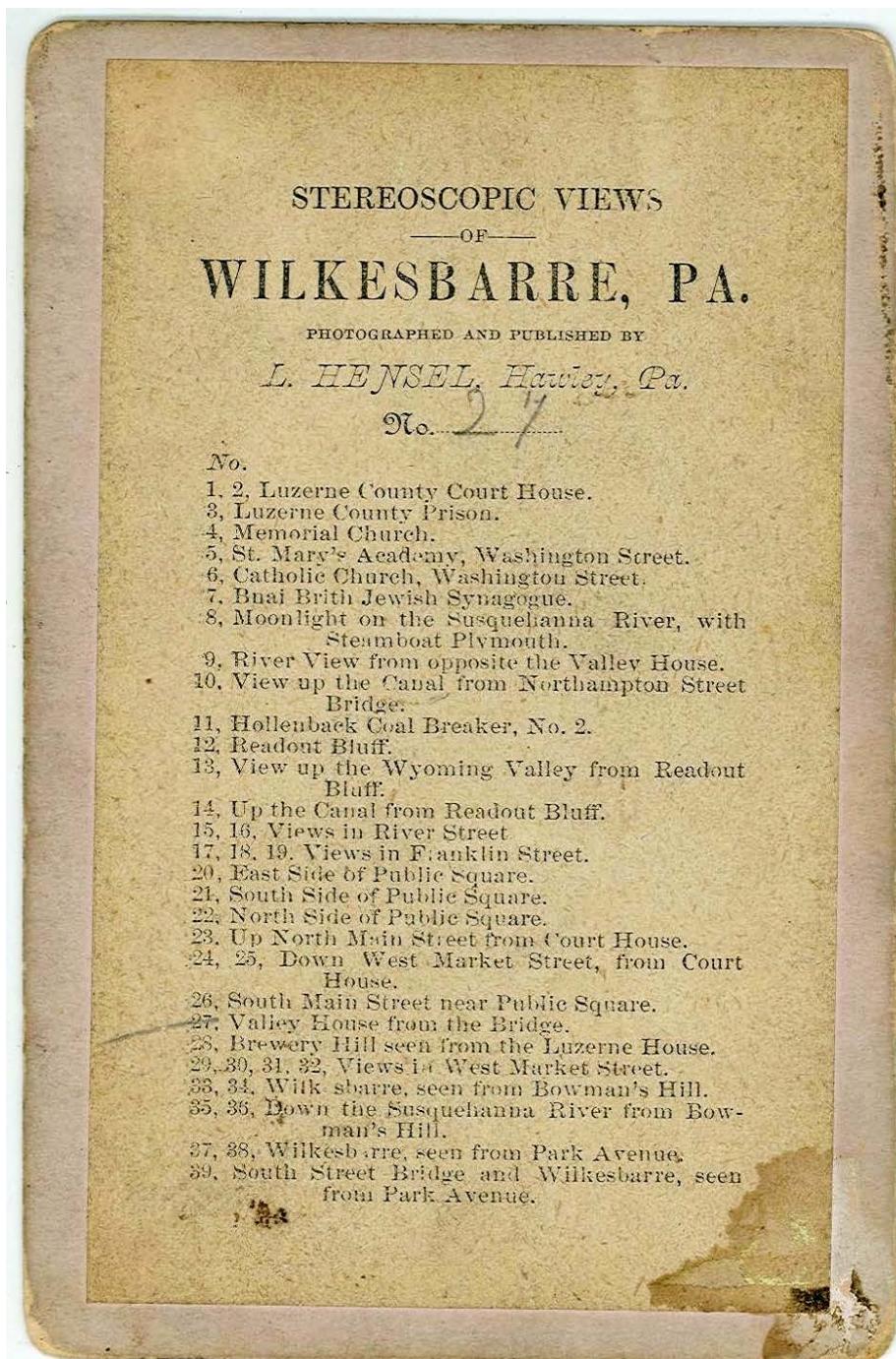
14. "STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS OF SCRANTON, PA. Photographed and Published by *L. HENSEL, Hawley, Pa.*" Views 1-23.



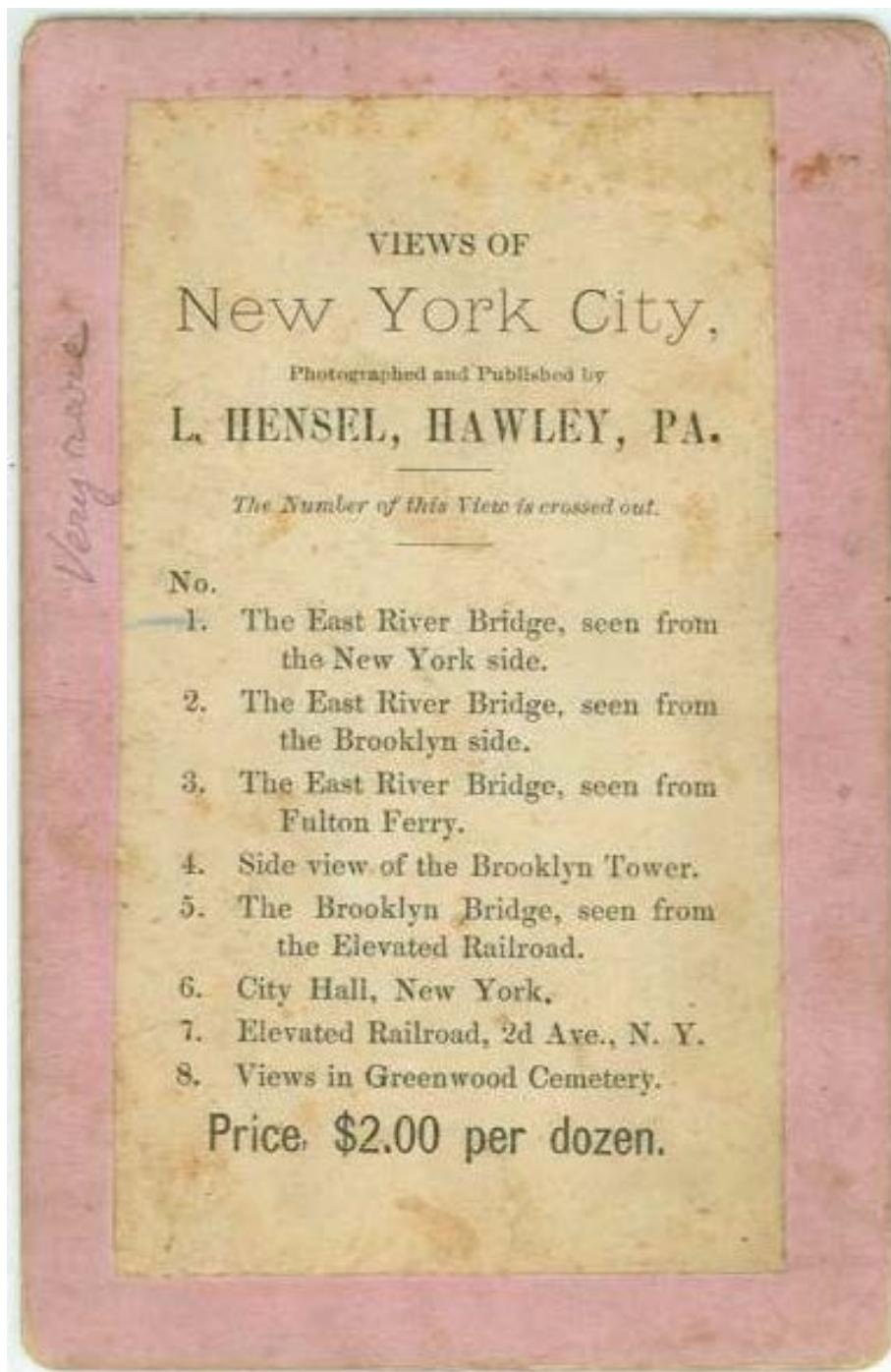
15. "Views of Pittston, Pa. Photographed and Published by L. Hensel, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 1-27.



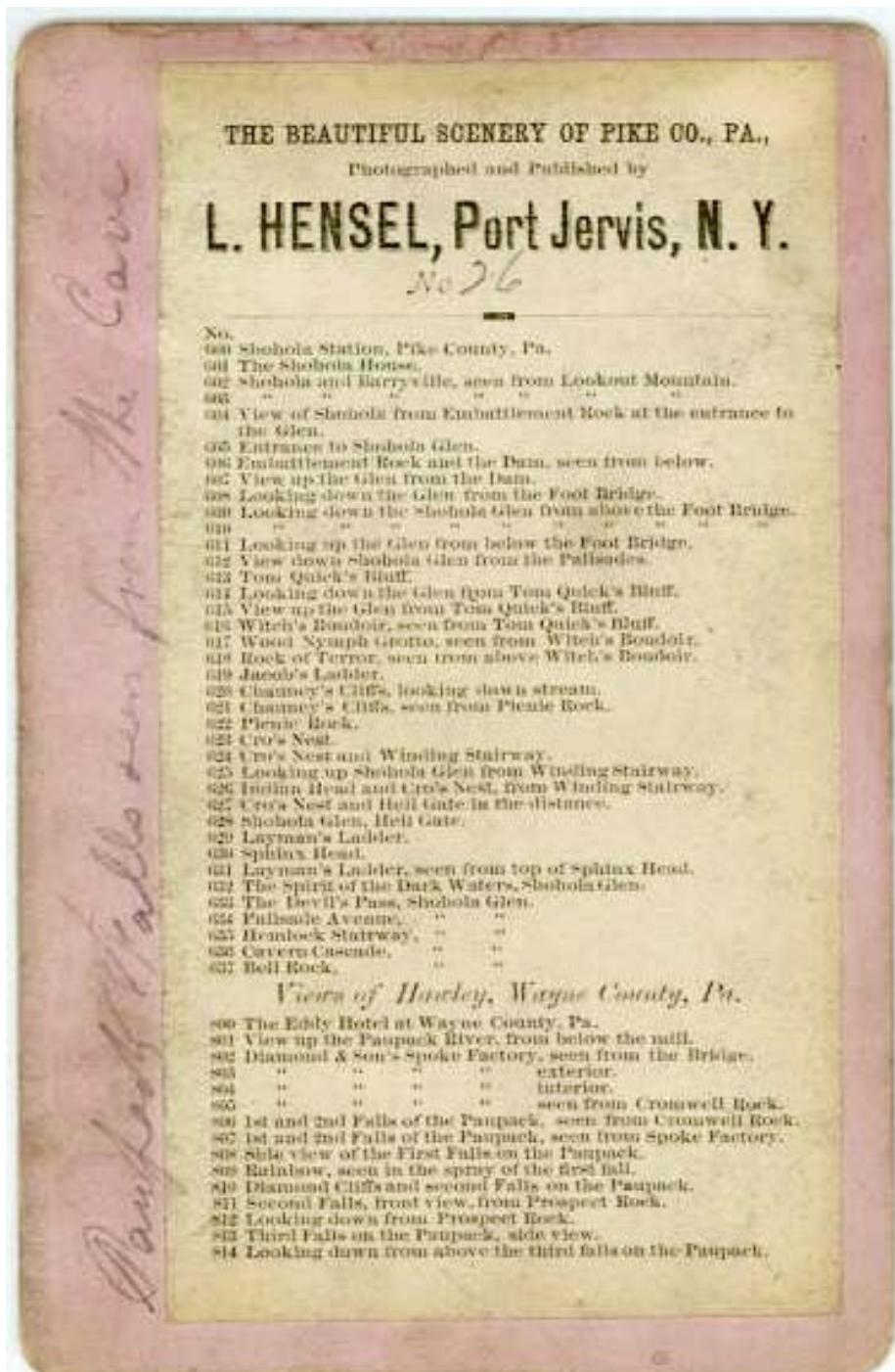
16. "STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS of WILKESBARRE, PA. PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, Hawley, Pa." Views Nos. 1-39.



17. "VIEWS OF New York City, Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, HAWLEY, PA." Views Nos. 1-8.



18. "THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF PIKE CO., PA., Photographed and Published by L. HENSEL, Port Jervis, N. Y." Views Nos. 000-037 (Views of Pike County); Nos. 000-014 (Views of Hawley).



19. "VIEWS OF Hawley, Wayne County, Pa. PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY L. HENSEL, Hawley, Wayne County, Pa." Views Nos. 1-40.

VIEWS OF  
**Hawley, Wayne County, Pa.**  
PHOTOGRAPHED AND PUBLISHED BY  
L. HENSEL, Hawley, Wayne County, Pa.

*The Number of this View is Crossed out.*

No.

1. The Graded School.
2. The Methodist Church.
3. The Presbyterian Church.
4. West Hawley, seen from the Graded School.
5. East Hawley, seen from the Graded School.
6. West Hawley, looking east.
7. West Hawley, seen from the Paupack road.
8. West Hawley, seen from the Highworks.
9. D. & H. Canal Basin, seen from the Highworks.
10. View down the Erie track from the Highworks.
11. The Coal Docks and Canal Basin, seen from the Keystone Hotel.
12. West Hawley, seen from the new road.
13. View of the Coal Pockets.
14. Coal Pockets and Breaker, seen from above the Barrett bridge.
15. View in Main street.
16. View in Church street.
17. View down the valley from above East Hawley depot.
18. Masonic Hall.
19. The Iron Bridge, East Hawley.
20. East Hawley, seen from above the Canal.
21. Railroad Bridge and Highworks, seen from the Canal Basin.
22. View on the D. & H. Canal.
23. Rock Lock, on the D. & H. Canal, near Hawley.
24. The Coal Office.
25. View up the Lackawaxen from the Highworks.
26. Paupack Falls, seen from the Cave.
27. Paupack Falls and Silk Mills, seen from the Eddy Cemetery.
28. Winter view on the Paupack.
29. The Hawley Glass Works.
30. The Hawley Glass Works, seen from the new road.
31. The Silk Mill Boarding House.
32. The Bellemonte Silk Mills.
33. The Silk Mills, seen from the Railroad.
34. Interior view of the Silk Mills.
35. Wilsonville, seen from the Knob.
36. Fairview Lake.
37. The Club House at Fairview Lake.
38. Paupack Falls.
39. Paupack Falls and Silk Mills.
40. View down the valley from the Wilsonville road.

**PRICE \$2.00 PER DOZEN.**

Such, then, are the indexes for the nineteen known photographic series that were created by Ludolph Hensel. The chronological order in which these series were created has not yet been established. Here are some facts to consider in establishing a chronology for these Hensel photographic series. It is known that:

- Series 1 and 2 were published in 1879 (see pp. 2-4, above).
- Hensel moved from New York City to Port Jervis in 1866, and became a photographic assistant to another photographer.
- Hensel opened his own studio in Port Jervis, at No. 4 Front Street, in 1875.
- Hensel moved to Hawley in 1878, and in 1882 built his own studio.
- Hensel's studio in Hawley burned in 1887, and Hensel then built a new studio.
- Hensel's address, as given on the index on the back of twelve of the series presented above (Series No. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 18), is Port Jervis.
- Hensel's address, as given on the index on the back of seven of the series presented above (Series Nos. 3, 7, 11, 14, 16, 17, and 19), is Hawley.
- Series No. 17, in which the Brooklyn Bridge is featured, was probably created in 1883, when the Brooklyn bridge, also known as the East River Bridge, was completed and opened.

In the years ahead, additional photographic series created by Ludolph Hensel may well surface, in which case they can easily be added to the list of series presented here.

\* \* \* \* \*